

The Daily Courant.

Monday, April 23. 1705.

London, April 23.

In the Foreign News-Papers, mention has often been made of late of Count Marfigli's having printed in Switzerland a Vindication of his Conduct in the Siege of Brisac; the last Mail from Holland brought over a printed Copy of that Vindication; a Translation of which will, 'tis presum'd, be acceptable to the Publick, and therefore we insert the first Part of it in this Courant, designing to give the rest in the succeeding.

I Was actually guarding the Post of Elzach in the black Forrest, when I receiv'd a Letter from Prince Lewis of Baden, Lieutenant General of his Imperial Majesty's Armies, dated the 10th of December 1702. in which his most serene Highness order'd me to go to Brisac, to view the Fortifications of it, and take Notice what was wanting to put it into a Condition of making a vigorous Defence, and after that to act in my proper Station of Major General, subordinate to Lieutenant General Count Philip of Arco, Governour of the Place.

Arriving there the 13th of the same Month of December in the Night, and the following days taking a careful Survey of the Condition of the Town, I found it ill furnish'd with Artillery, viz. with but 40 Pieces of Cannon, and most of those wanting Carriages, Wheels, or other things. I found there were no Miners, Pioneers, Gunners, or Ingeniers in the Place: And that the Garrison consisted of no more than 1744 Soldiers: Some time after that Number was augmented by my Regiment of 804 Men: But among them there was not one Troop of Horse, which are known to be so necessary for Sallies. I found that the Fortifications on the Land-side wanted repairing very much; and that there were none at all on the side lying upon the River. Which side I perceiv'd was necessary to be fortified; as being wholly expos'd to the Islands the Enemy have in the Middle of the Rhine, and to Fort Mortier situate on the other side of that River.

Having view'd the Place, I sent a very exact Account of all I had observ'd to the Prince of Baden, the 18th of December 1702. and the 1st and 13th of January 1703. with a Proposal for remedying all the foremention'd Inconveniences, and a Plan of that vast Fortress, in which I had mark'd with Dots the Works I propos'd to make.

Let the State I found the Place in, be compar'd with that it ought to have been in, pursuant to the Resolutions of the Diet at Ratisbon, and the Orders afterwards given by the Prince of Baden; and the Difference will appear to be too great, not to convince any Man of the Danger to which the Place was expos'd.

The Diet resolv'd that a standing Garrison of 8000 effective Men should be put into it, 84 Pieces of heavy Cannon, and 8 Mortars, with sufficient Ammunition, Officers, Workmen, &c. Afterwards, the Prince of Baden, as Governour General of the Frontier of the Rhine, by an ample Order, did not only acknowledge the Necessity (during the War,) of the Number of the Garrison establish'd by the Diet, and even of a greater, but expressly directed that the Place should be provided with more Artillery, that is to say, with 130 or at the least 120 Pieces of Cannon, and 12 or 15 Mortars, and proportionably greater

Stores of Ammunition, with Officers, &c. suitable. Whereas in Time of Peace, he judg'd a Garrison of 3000 Men sufficient for the Place. The Resolution of the Diet, and the Order of the Prince of Baden, may be seen in a printed Book intituled *Europaischen Stats Cantzley*. Pag. 444. 445.

The Prince of Baden return'd no Answer to the Account I sent him, nor to several Instances I took the Liberty to make to him in a Letter I inclos'd in it: In which I incerted these very Words. 'I most humbly intreat your most serene Highness, to send me, as a very singular Favour, an Order, by which I may regulate and justify my own Conduct, in Case on any Occasion the Service of our most gracious Master be not sufficiently perform'd; to the End that hereafter I may not, tho' innocent myself, be made to answer for the Faults of others.

My Zeal went further. I made Application directly to the Court of Vienna: I wrote to his Imperial Majesty, to the King of the Romans, and to several Ministers; and notwithstanding for the more sure Conveyance of my Letter, I directed them to Mr. Breitenbucher, the Agent of my Regiment, who with his own Hand deliver'd that directed to the King of the Romans to his Excellency the Count de Lamberg, his Majesty's great Huntsman, he could obtain no Answer, till after the Surrender of Brisac, as I shall shew by and by.

Mean time, seeing the Season advance, and the French grow numerous in that Part of the Country, I had the more cause to apprehend the Enemy had a Design on Brisac, the Defence of which was indeed entrusted to the Count d' Arco, but the Care of repairing the Fortifications was committed to me.

Wherefore, without further Delay, I apply'd myself with all Diligence to get some Works made, and for want of Pioneers employ'd the Soldiers of the Garrison, (augmented as I said by 804 Men of my Regiment, which were sent in by Order of the Prince of Baden,) tho' they were in a miserable Condition, and discontented for Want of Pay.

While the Works were carrying on, the Count of Arco, either yielding to the Intreaties of the Townsmen and Burgo-Masters, who very unwillingly bore the necessary Charge of those Works; or not believing the Place would be besieg'd so soon, judg'd my Zeal to be unseasonable, and the Authority I took upon me in directing the Works, to be exorbitant: He began a Quarrel with me upon it, and carried it so high, that on the 18th of March, 1703. he put me under Confinement, from which I was not releas'd till the 3d of May following.

The Governour complain'd that I made the Garrison spend their Strength in needless and superfluous Labour; and probably it was what he represented to the Prince of Baden; which Representation, I believe, induced his most Serene Highness to have no Regard to the Instances that I caus'd to be made, that the Matter might be examin'd, that after he had seen such Examination he might decide the Difference between the Count of Arco and I.

If my Subordination to the said Count were not otherwise evident; it appears sufficiently by the Authority he exercis'd in depriving me so long of my Liberty, and by the Prince of Baden's sending to me Monsieur Seminiani, Captain of his Highness's own Regiment, to signify to us both, to me that I should obey the Count of Arco, and to the Count that he should oblige me to obey him.

It was by Order of the Prince of Baden that I was set at Liberty at the Time I have mention'd; and perceiving the ill Condition and Danger of the Place encrease, as the Season advanc'd, I took the freedom to write again to his Highness, and to make a direct Protestation to him, that I neither could nor would be answerable for the Disgrace that imminently threaten'd Brisac. Several Months being elaps'd, the Garrison began to murmur openly at their not being paid; when I, to keep my own Regiment at least within the Bounds of their Duty, sent Kaiser, one of my Captains, to the Regents of the Brisgau at Fribourg, the 30th of July, to borrow of them 10000 Florins, not only on my own Word, but on the Arrears of my Regiment, and the Emperor's Patrimony. But this Proposal being rejected, I was oblig'd to cause leaden Money to be Coin'd.

It was then that the Arrival of the Duke of Burgundy at Fort Mortier, shew'd still more evidently the Danger the Place was in of being besieged; and it being no better provided yet for a Siege than when I first enter'd it, I wrote to the said Captain Kaiser at Fribourg, to go with all Expedition to the Court of Vienna, with several Letters and Instructions that I sent to him, among which were even Blanks sign'd by me for resigning my Regiment and leaving Brisac.

This Captain did not set out on his Return from the Court of Vienna till the 2d of September, not being dispatch'd sooner, so that he could not come back till the deplorable Loss of Brisac, which happen'd on the 6th of the same Month of September. He found the Count of Arco and I at Rinfeld, and deliver'd to the Count a Letter from his Imperial Majesty, and one to me from the Council of War, in which was inclos'd a Copy of the Emperor's said Letter; in each of which was contain'd an Article that I shall mention distinctly in another Place. His Majesty in his Letter, order'd that the Place should be defended to the last Man, taking for granted that there was every thing in it necessary for such a Defence: And the other Letter that was directed to me, gave me an Authority over the Governour, in Case that on very sure Grounds, I should know of any thing prejudicial to his Imperial Majesty's Service.

While the Court of Vienna delay'd their Answers, which, as I have observ'd, did not come till the Business was over; and upon the Appearance of a speedy Siege, the Count of Arco wrote at Length to the Prince of Baden for some Cannon, which were then at Fribourg, whither they had been carried from Brisac. The Answer the Governour receiv'd, and which he communicated to me, yet without shewing me the Letter, was, that his Highness could not take any Cannon out of Fribourg: And tho' it was I, who at the Instance, and on the Part of the Count of Arco, wrote the Letter, and subscrib'd my own Name to it, the Answer was not directed to me, but (as I was then told) to the Governour the Count of Arco. He told me his Highness had written to him, that he could not spare any Cannon from Fribourg, that Place being more threaten'd than Brisac with a Siege.

The unhappy Issue did but too well verify, not only the Apprehension I had of the Siege of Brisac, but likewise my Prediction of the very Parts of the Fortification that would be attack'd, as being the weakest.

London, April. 23. Last Saturday came in Letters from Sir John Leake dated the 31st of March, from on board the Hampton Court at Gibraltar, which give an Account, That on the 6th of the said Month he sail'd from Lisbon and the 9th got in sight of Cape Spartel, but not having Day enough to reach Gibraltar, lay by to prevent being discover'd from the Spanish Shore, that he might surprize Monsieur de Pointis in the Bay early next Morning; at about half an Hour past 5 next Morning he was within 2 Miles of Cape Cabaritza and discover'd only 5 Sail making out of the Bay, which he chased, they were the Magnanime of 74 Guns, the Ardent of 66, the Arrogant

of 60, the Lis of 80, and the Marquis of 56. At 9 o'Clock Sir Thomas Dilkes in the Revenge, with 3 other Ships and a Dutch Man of War, got within half a Gun shot of the Arrogant, which after very little resistance struck; and before one o'clock the Ardent and Marquis were taken by 2 Dutch Men of War: The Lis and Magnanime were run ashore to the Westward of Marbella; the latter had Monsieur de Pointis on board, and ran ashore with so much force, that all her Masts came by the Board, and only her Hull from the Taffrail to the Midships remain'd above Water; which the Enemy burnt in the Night, and the Lis the next Morning.

The Swallow and Leopard chased a French Merchant Man of 300 Tons ashore in Malaga Road, which the Enemy burnt.

The Expedition and Panther likewise chased ashore near Cape de Gatte a French Merchant Man of 250 Tons and 30 Guns, bound to the West-Indies; which the Enemy likewise burnt. The Assurance and Bedford took 2 Sattees.

The rest of the Enemy's Ships that were at Gibraltar, were driven from their Anchors some days before Sir John Leake arriv'd.

The Enemy before Gibraltar had drawn off some of their Cannon from their Batteries, and 'twas believed would raise the Siege, or turn it into a Blockade,

The 19th Instant Capt. F. Sterry pleaded Her Majesty's most gracious Pardon at the Old-Baily, and is going with all Expedition to his Command in Flanders.

Never Acted before,

At the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane, this present Monday, being the 23d of April, will be presented a new Comedy call'd, The Tender Husband; Or, The Accomplish'd Fools.

At the Queen's Theatre in the Hay-Market, this present Monday being the 23d of April, will be presented a Comedy call'd, The Merry Wives of Windsor, with Entertainments of Dancing by Mademoiselle de la Val, Mrs. Elford and others, &c. And to Morrow being Tuesday, will be presented a new Farce never Acted before, call'd, The Consultation. To which will be added the Italian Pastoral: The Part of Licoris to be perform'd by the new Italian Boy.

There is a Cold Bath

At the Hummums in Charles Street, Covent-Garden, with every thing Convenient for Cold Bathing. Attendance will be given every Day till Two in the Afternoon.

There is lately arriv'd at Billingsgate a Vessel with very large, new and white Newfoundland Cod-fish, taken as Prize from the French; never landed, salted with choice French Bay-salt, weighing 14 or 15 Pounds the Couple, one with the other, to be sold at 12 d. the Couple retail. And for Commanders of Ships taking a quantity, to be deliver'd clear of all Charges into any Boats at Billingsgate Stairs.

On May-Day, being Tuesday come Seven-night, will be expos'd to Sale by Auction, Mr. Burlace Miller's Stock of Woollen Cloth, at his Shop, the Sign of the three Bells in Ludgate-street. The Sale will begin at two o'clock in the Afternoon. Catalogues may be had at the said Shop, on Monday next: And the Goods may be seen every day.

At the New Cock-Pit, at the Bowling-Green, behind Gray's-Inn-Walks, on Monday next, being the 23d of April, will be seen the Royal Sport of Cock-Fighting, for 2 Guineas each Battle. And on Tuesday begins a Great Match for 4 Guineas each Battle, and 20 Guineas the odd Battle, and will continue the whole Week: Between the Gentlemen of the City of London, and the Gentlemen of the City of Westminster.

Note, There will be a Battle on the Pit every Day exactly by half an Hour after four o'clock, it being so inserted under a Penalty in the Articles.

To morrow will be publish'd,

A Sermon Preach'd before Her Majesty at Saint James's, on Wednesday, April 4. 1705. By W. Fleetwood, Chaplain in Ordinary to Her Majesty. Publish'd by Her Majesty's Special Command. Printed for C. Harper at the Flower-de-luce, over against St. Dunstan's Church in Fleet-street.

The History of the Holy Bible in large Folio, Printed on Royal Paper, and illustrated with 266 Cuts and Maps; being near Printed, will be ready to deliver to Subscribers by the end of May next; and there being a few Sculptures that want Patrons for their Arms and Inscriptions, Gentlemen, &c. that desire to have their Arms engraven thereon, may have it done for 2 Guineas, if they send before the 10th of next Month to Mr. Blau at the Green Belcony in Durham-Yard; and such as have not paid their first Payment are desired to do it by that Time, and send in the Names of their Subscribers to J. Sprint, or J. Nicholson in Little-Britain.

The Complainer further reprov'd: In the Observations made by the President and his Suffragan Bishops, upon a Paper presented to them by the Prolocutor of the Lower-House, December 1. 1704. And his Grace's Speech, deliver'd to those of the Lower-Clergy who were present at the time of his Proroguing the Convocation, March 15. Together with several Papers from the Lower-House, to which they Refer; and which, having been Printed and Dispers'd apart to prejudice the Clergy against their Bishops, made it necessary to Publish the whole Proceeding entire. Printed for A. and J. Churchill, at the Black-Swan in Pater-Noster Row.

L O N D O N Printed, and Sold by Sam. Buckley at the Dolphin in Little-Britain.